GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2995
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2005
CALAMITY MANAGEMENT
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States where separate Ministries/Departments have been created for calamity management;

(b) the amount provided to these Ministries/Departments during the last three years;

(c) whether any norms have been formulated to identify the works to be done under calamity management; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to assure the compliance of these norms?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a): As per information available with the Ministry, the States/Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Kerala, Lakshdweep, Manipur, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and Uttranchal have already converted/re-designated their respective Relief Departments so as to include Disaster Management in their nomenclature.

(b): The Central Government have not provided any financial support for the creation/re-designation of these Departments.

(c): Government of India have issued guidelines to State Governments/UT Administrations recommending, interalia, implementation of institutional measures for coordinated action towards prevention, mitigation, preparedness and response to disasters, setting up of specialized search and rescue teams, training and awareness generation at different levels, developing fire services as Multi-hazard response units, setting up of control rooms with standby communication systems, drawing up of hazard specific disaster management plans, mainstreaming disaster mitigation aspects in all development projects, ensuring adherence to BIS standards/codes in the construction of buildings in seismic zones III, IV & V, constructing/earmarking cyclone and flood shelters, maintaining an on-line inventory of resources etc.

(d): Regular inter-action is maintained with State Governments to monitor the steps taken by them to strengthen their capacity for calamity management. 169 most hazard prone districts in 17 States are being assisted under the Government of India-UNDP Disaster Risk Management Programme in capacity building, awareness generation and preparation of disaster management plans at State/ District/Block/Village/Ward/Urban Local Bodies levels. The State Governments have been allowed to utilize upto 10% of the annual allocation made to their Calamity Relief Fund for purchase of equipments for the specialist Search and Rescue teams. The State Governments have also been permitted to utilize the funds made available under the modernization of police forces scheme for equipping the Control Rooms at State/District levels. Technical and logistic support to facilitate action by States/UTs in pursuance of the guidelines issued by the Government is also being provided.